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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant: **Shuo-Yen Robert Li**

Case: **18**

Serial No. **09/882,328**

Filed: **June 15, 2001**

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Title of Invention: **SELF-ROUTING CONTROL MECHANISM OVER
MULTISTAGE INTERCONNECTION NETWORKS OF
CONCENTRATORS**

**THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

SIR:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Enclosed is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

Please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

Please replace all of pages 8 and 9, namely, the "Summary of the Invention", with the following:

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The shortcomings of the prior art, as well as other limitations and deficiencies, are obviated in accordance with the present invention by applying algebraic principles to the physical realization of a large switching fabric based upon contemporary technologies.

In accordance with a broad method aspect of the present invention, a method for self-routing a packet through a $b_2^n \times b_2^n$ switching network includes: (a)

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